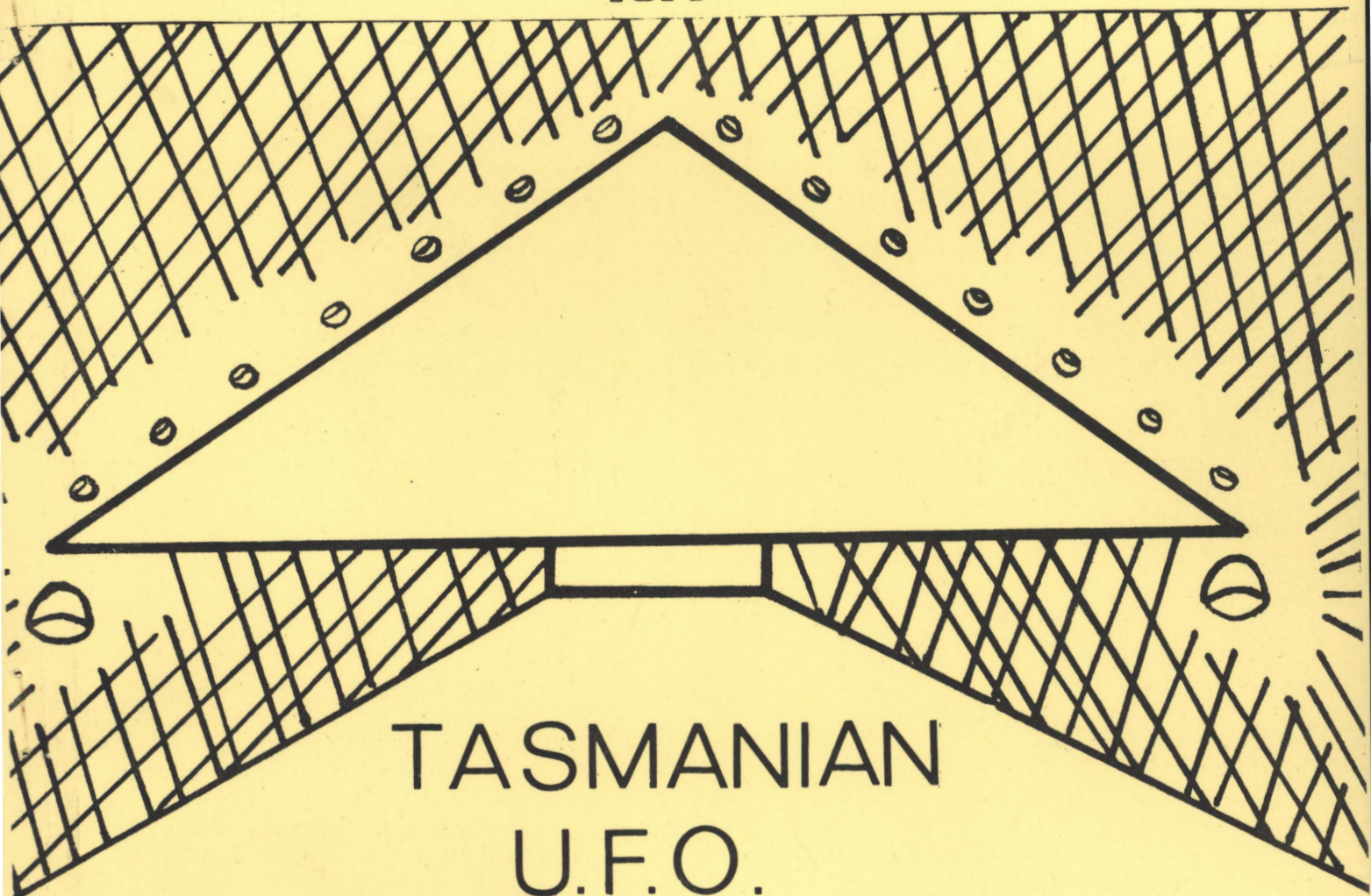


SVFOI

# UFO

1977



TASMANIAN  
U.F.O.

INVESTIGATION CENTRE

price 30<sup>c</sup>

edition 20.



The Psychic, newly religious, and writers of the sensational are all cashing in on the well established and now respected UFO groups all over the world. In fact the "fringe" element seems to have a passion to consume the UFO phenomena.

UFO researchers have long struggled to become established in the community as responsible working groups. Presenting factual accounts of sightings, corrolating data, and making commonsense investigations without resorting to theorising on the source of the phenomena.

The "fringe" element have clung unwanted jepordizing the credibility of the researcher. Voicing their parrot like patter, and exciting romantic notions which many people at the present want to hear.

The individuals getting on the UFO bandwagon are almost a phenomena in themselves. Writing articles, lecturing, or spreading their views with confidence. Are they really interested in genuine UFO research. I doubt it, all the hard work is provided by the investigators who do not seek the limelight. The "fringe" tend to point out a well known sighting or photograph (investigated by someone else), then turn to their favourite angle of theorising to convince the listner of what is usually unfounded speculation.

Here and there the following builds up, more speculation and less fact, let us beware that scientifically minded groups are not swept along with the tide.

Everybody is free to do what turns them on, a religious experience, seance, psychic, or UFO study, but the interests should be kept seperate. One may impinge upon the other but there is no reason to lump all the phenomena together in a confusing jumble of information.

Let us give the UFO terms of reference, this is a seperate study. "The UFO, why is it here, where is it from".

Scientists have now joined the ranks of researchers all over the world and are working together as never before. We must patiently continue to gather data as there is no quick answer as offered by the "fringe".

(J. BIGWOOD - President)

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COVER DRAWING - UFO REPORTED AT MAGRA, SEE STORY PAGE 2.

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TUFOIC 1977

President.....Mrs J. Bigwood  
Secretary .....Keith Roberts  
Liaison Officer..Paul Jackson  
Treasurer.....Jan Drew  
Committee.....M. Lown, D. Harris  
All correspondence to, 366 Huon Rd.,  
South Hobart, Tasmania.  
Sightings Phone 72 7479 or after 6pm 23 6009  
Area Representatives  
North..John Dean, 200 Allanvale Rd.,  
Launceston. Ph 26 3102  
North West.. M. Vos, 76 George St,  
Devonport. Ph. 26 2010  
West Coast...Mrs M. Harris P.O. Box 582,  
Queenstown. Ph. 71 1798

TUFOIC MEETING DATES 1977

Meetings are held at Scots Church rooms  
rear of Scots Church, Bathurst St at 8pm.  
All prospective members and any persons  
with sighting information are welcome.  
Make a note now of the 1977 dates.  
February 11th August 12th  
April 8th October 14th  
June 10th December 2nd.



## UFO AT MAGRA

Was it a coincidence, but on the evenings of February 9th and 10th two Magra residents reported hearing repeated whistle type noises from over Denmark Hill. Then near dawn on February 12th two Hydro Electric Commission linesmen, Mr Brian Woolley and his mate sighted a UFO over the same hill although this time there was no noise heard.

The initial sighting was at 4.50am when Wooley was waiting at the corner of Saddle and Back River Road, Magra. He first noticed a powerful rectangular white light flanked by two red lights moving in from the north west. The lights were moving only slowly and then became stationary near power lines over Denmark Hill. He placed them about one to 3/4 of a km away and 100 to 200mts up.

After two minutes Wooley was surprised to see 2 red lights appear above the main white light, the configuration of the lights covered a triangle area. Then red, blue, and green lights flashed on and off down the sloping sides of the triangle. The lights pulsed off and on in sequence from top to bottom with the 2 larger flanking red lights at the base completing the sequence. Then the top red lights would come on and the whole process begin again. Wooley estimated there were 6 or 7 lights on the sides with the bottom red lights always going on and off once a second.

The reflection from the lights was so bright that Wooley would see a one piece silver metal coloured surface making up the body of the UFO.

After 6 minutes all the lights went out leaving just the bright central white light at the base. The UFO then moved off very fast, receding away towards Strathgordon in 2 to 3 seconds. All that could be seen was a dot of light that just disappeared.

Just over 10 minutes later at 5.10am the object returned, Wooley was working up a pole and came down to draw his mate's attention to the approaching lights. The same sequence as before was followed except the object did not come quite as close, then moved back a short distance and stopped.

The lights pulsed on as before and through binoculars looked pin sized compared with the big light below which filled up the field of vision. After watching for 8 minutes more the witnesses flashed a spotlight towards the UFO, it moved almost at once very fast.

Contd: next column

2.

## UFO ESCORTS TRUCK

Two truck drivers had a puzzling experience in the early hours of February 17th when an object apparently paced their truck from Nive Hill to Berriedale, a distance of over 90kilometres.

The UFO was first seen by Ron Wilson whilst coming down Nive Hill, his companion Phil Fazackerley was having a sleep at the time and didn't have a proper look at the object until near Ouse about 4 to 4.30am. Wilson thinks he first noticed the UFO between 3.30 and 4am. The object was last seen near Berriedale Caravan Park about 6am.

Wilson is maintenance engineer with a canning company, his work takes him at times to do repair work at Strahan, he and Fazackerley were taking a load of abalone from Strahan to Dover. The witnesses had no prior interest in the UFO subject other than seeing items in the press. The sighting was reported to the Hobart Mercury by their company manager.

### UFO First Seen.

As Wilson approached Black Bobs on the Lyell Highway he saw a bright object through the trees, ahead and to his left. It seemed to be maintain a position 45 degrees in front of the truck (Sth E), Wilson kept glancing at the light and woke his companion up on the Dee Hill sometime before 4am. Fazackerley had a glance at the light then dozed off again until nearer Ouse, by then the UFO had accompanied the truck for 25kmts.

Before Ouse and again later on the UFO appeared to pass in front of distant hills, but still kept its position no matter which way the road turned. It was maybe one to three quarters of a kilometre away and at this stage 300mts up.

Contd on page 3

### MAGRA UFO

The pulsing lights went out and then in 2 or 3 seconds the object had receded towards Wayatinah (NW) and was just a dot of white light then was gone.

The UFO was estimated as being 12 to 13 mts wide and roughly 3 to 4 mts high. It was described as a triangular shape with ill defined corners. The large rectangular shaped light was in the centre below the base line of the triangle, it was very bright and white. The weather at the time of the report was fine and clear.



## Description of UFO

The UFO was described as having a brilliant yellow white dome in the centre, it was so bright that the exact shape was hard to tell. Either side was a dark or brown coloured body, it resembled a sausage bent down at each end. The dark area didnt seem to have any light of its own but was visable in the bright light from the dome area.

The width of the UFO was estimated at 10mts, with the dome being 3 or 4 mts wide.

Pacing continues, transistor effected?

Travelling through Hamilton the object took up a position north or north east as the Lyell Highway here swings more in that direction. Wilson said he couldnt understand how they could watch something for so long and not be able to make out what it was.

At Gretna Fazackerley tried his transistor radio, there was the odd voice but a lot of static, by Plenty there was nothing but static. It was not until near Berriedale that the radio returned to normal.

## Closest Approach.

After being paced for over 60kms the witnesses decided to stop and have a close look at the UFO, also it was now time to change drivers, they pulled up just after the site of the old Plenty Bridge over the Derwent River.

The Lyell Highway drops down near the river here and there are steep slopes on the eastern side of the road for a few miles. The UFO by this time looked closer and in front of nearby hills.

Passing the steep slopes by the river Wilson recalls that they lost sight of the UFO for the only time, but they could still see its bright glow over the hilltop.

Wilson pulled in at a lay-by, turned off the motor and lights, then got out on the running board of the truck and watched the UFO cross the road ahead.

It was now only 300mts away and about 80 to 100mts above the road. It continued moving on and crossed the river before moving closer up the opposite river bank, then became stationary. Fazackerley says he saw it over the road ahead, then he went round the back of the truck to check the load. When he looked again the object was across the river.

After 5 minutes Fazackerley took over the driving and they moved off for Hobart. As soon as they moved the UFO crossed back to the left of the road.

## Accompanying light appears.

Just before New Norfolk the UFO started to gain elevation and moved back to their right (Sth to sth east), it passed over the centre of the town. It was now near 5.30pm but the witnesses had not noticed any other traffic.

It was now that they first noticed a small orange light below the main object, this light in comparison was only starlike in size. It maintained position as they left New Norfolk for Bridgewater.

## UFO Low in Valley

Now heading east to north east their escorting UFO again swapped sides, going over the Australian Newsprint Mills at Boyer.

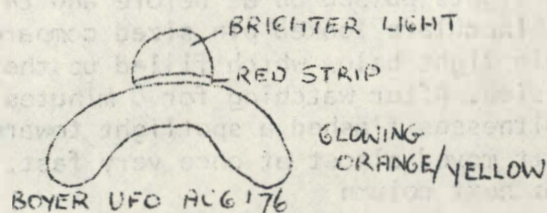
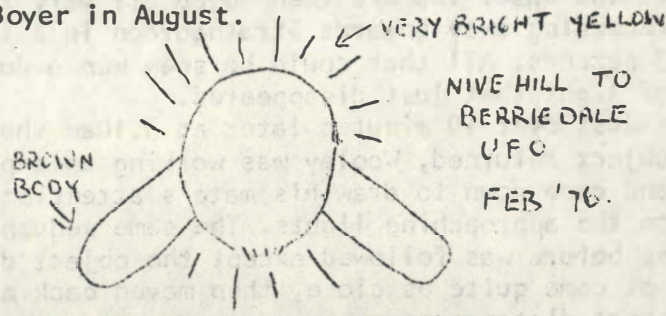
Wilson said the UFO still seemed low and passed in front of Mt Dromedary (989mt) on their northern side. Fazackerley recalled he had to lean forward in the drivers seat to see the UFO to the left front.

## Sighting Finishes.

Both had now doubts as to the direction of the UFO in relation to their truck. With the steep slopes of Mt Faulkner to their south east it was impossible for them to see the newly risen Venus.

After Granton the Derwent turns more south and the highway follows its course. The UFO however seemed to go straight on getting more distant and higher in the eastern sky as if a long way off when last seen. The object became hard to see with the dawn and by Derriedale the witnesses could no longer pick it up.

Sketches of the object have similarities with an UFO that paced a utility at Boyer in August.





## MAYDNA'S MYSTERY LIGHTS.

Maydena the location of a number of sightings between February and April 1976 is situated 58kms WNW from Hobart. The town of several hundred people is the centre of logging operations for the Australian Newsprint Mills.

Maydena itself is in the Tyenna River valley at an elevation of 280mts. To the north is Mt Field National Park, a high country area of lakes and peaks up to 1400mts. South east is the Maydena Range over 1000mts high, Abbotts Look Out overlooks the town. There are extensive forests around the town and public access to the same is by permit only.

The new power lines from the Lake Pedder -Gordon power scheme pass over the Maydena Rge a few miles south of the town. The two new large lakes are roughly 30kms to the west, and south west.

### Sightings Start.

The Maydena business all started for TUFO'C on the evening of February 17th when Wayne Thorpe telephoned the President Jeanette Bigwood only minutes after the first sighting of two puzzling lights at 10.15pm.

Thorpe and his friends went in search of the lights but found nothing. Their account in the Hobart Mercury resulted in a flow of reports to be investigated.

Thorpe with 3 friends had first noticed two orange lights moving fast from the direction of National Park (NE.) The lights one following the other slowed as they moved over the Maydena Range, then stopped altogether. An apparent size of 10 cents given by the witnesses who also had a look with binoculars but just saw a large light.

After remaining still for a few minutes one of the lights(the leading one) dropped in front of the range towards a rough clearing above Fitzgerald some 5kms away. The light looked bigger as it came down but then just went out as it neared the ground, or went behind trees into a gully. At this same moment the second light went up and blinked off like a light being turned out.

### Repeater Two Nights Later.

Two nights later (Feb 19th) Mr. A. Walker saw two lights at 10pm. performing the same manoeuvres. Once again the lights were seen approaching from the NE and drifting over the Maydena Rge. They were orange coloured and an apparent 1¢ sized.

After becoming stationary for 3 minutes one light moved down the other up. The light neared the same clearings then they both faded out.

### First Big Fly Over.

The first of the UFO flypasts over the Maydena township itself occurred on the night of February 21st/22nd. Men leaving the RSL Club at the eastern end of the town noticed two orange/red lights moving west over Abbotts Look Out. Other people at various locations in the town also sighted the lights.

Mrs. P. Green who takes the town weather readings saw the lights from the western side of Maydena. She called out friends to see the lights. One light seemed to pass below the Look Out, the other just above. The lights moved slowly, dipped at one point then rose again. One witness thought there was a faint humming sound.

Geoff Marshall told the centre how the lights had disappeared. He had seen them come from Abbotts L.O. and gradually close together. Originally the lights had been one above the other and quite a distance apart. They finally met up south west of the town.

Descriptions varied on what happened next. Some witnesses saw a flash of light, others say the lights dulled then brightened.

The next thing Marshall said was that one of the lights moved off fast to the south west, going out of sight over the skyline. The remaining light drifted westward a short distance and up a bit before fading out.

The lights had been seen beneath scattered cloud and described as Venus to half inch in apparent size. They were described by all as orange/red, and were in view for 20 minutes between 11.50pm and 12.20am.

That evening (22nd) a similar 1¢ sized orange light put in a brief appearance. It was seen travelling west at 10.15pm in the southern sky. It was at a high elevation and moving fast. One witness had a 2 minute look at it with binoculars and said there was a dome shape with a light on top. The light blinked out in clear sky.

### Second Multiple Sighting.

It was a cloudy night on Wednesday Feb 25th, but this didn't deter the two orange lights, one above the other, from appearing yet again. Numerous witness spotted the lights from this town at 10.15 pm.

Geoff Marshall recalled he first saw the lights as they came through a gap in the range by Abbotts Look Out. They seemed to be beneath the misty sky. (To Page 5)



### Second Multiple Sighting.

Marshall's sighting of the lights would place them 2 to 3 miles from the town and at an elevation of about 1000mts.

The reddish/orange lights moved in perfect formation but at a slower speed than their last fly past. The lights were in sight for 5 minutes and after heading west turned south west and gained elevation. They faded from view and possibly could have climbed into a cloud.

During investigations checks were made with DCA and the RAAF and aircraft explanations were ruled out, as were balloons. IN fact there seemed to be no rational explanation for the series of sightings.

### The Night They Rang The Church Bell.

"Hundreds watch UFO's at Mydena," reported the Hobart Mercury referring to yet another multiple witness report on February 26th. Then it told how the church bell had been rung at the approach of the familiar orange lights. As a result there were groups of 30 to 40 people clustered in side streets and a bigger crowd in the main street.

The lights were first seen at 10.55 pm. and were visible for nearly 20 minutes as they travelled west, then swung south to south west and disappeared into the distance. On the field trip to the town by the Centre there were just too many witnesses for the investigators to see in the limited time available.

This time the lights appeared as if climbing out of the valley from National Park and were on a flight path to take them down the main street. The first light was in a steep climb and was followed in 10 seconds by its companion. The second light took a lower trajectory.

Constable Lowry takes up the story, he heard the bell ringing and went to see two lights approaching from the north east. He saw a silver light fall from the leader and drop groundwards for 4 seconds, then it went out. This was seen by others.

The second light on its lower trajectory gradually closed on the first light, some thought the first light slowed to let number two catch up. They took up formation one below the other and continued west. After passing the town the lights altered course, a point on which all the witnesses agreed, they now headed south or south west.

### Descriptions.

Various estimates were given for the apparent size of the lights varying from four times Venus sized up to one centimetre. All agreed they appeared much larger than on earlier occasions. One witness with binoculars says he saw a half moon light at the front coloured a misty orange. Behind was an ill defined squiggly area then a bright orange light at the rear.

### Lights Depart.

Depending on their location in the town some people lost sight of the lights before others. Those nearest the hills had their view obstructed by trees. Geoff Marshall with others at the football ground could see one light receding into the distance till it went over the skyline around 11.20pm. The remaining light after a flash of light was seen had stopped then faded out.

Mrs. Green and others a mile west on the ANMgate saw lights that night. To them they only looked starlike moving off to the south west but low in the sky.

### A Fix on the Lights.

Just when everyone thought the lights had gone for good they turned up again on the night of March 10th at 11.10pm. For a change they were travelling south west to north east. The witnesses were Mr.G.Sargison, and Mr.T. Francombe a Forests Operation Superintendent; neither had seen the earlier visits by the lights.

Sargison first saw a lone light coming from the south west and passing north of the town. He called out Mr.Francombe and they then noticed a second light following. They were both orange coloured.

The lights were just pin points of light, their speed was estimated at 150kph. It seemed the lights would go into the clouds but instead they passed beneath cumulus with a base at 1600mts. They changed more to a whiteish colour as they gained elevation to the north east and faded away by 11.20pm.

Mr. Francombe telephoned a friend at Westerway, 18kms north east of Maydena. The witness told the Centre that the lights had been seen near 11.30pm.

The two lights were located north west over Mt Field East (1270mts). Yellow lights, one higher and further off. The second lower and closer, it went through cloud as they went away to the north and faded out with distance. It seemed the lights passed north of Maydena, then over Mt. Field at 1500 to 2000 mts. elevation.



Ellendale Report.

The same night a strange light was also seen near Ellendale under the eastern slopes of Mt Field East, the time was 12.45am (Mar 11).

The witnesses were driving home from Westerway to Ellendale when they saw a round bright light in a gully to their west. It was changing from orange to red all the time, it was 3 miles away and below the skyline.

They stopped and watched the light for a few minutes, then saw it move slowly up. It grew from pinhead size to 1 cent apparent.

Fifteen minutes had passed and the witnesses thought the light was getting closer so they left for home. There was a lot of static on the car radio although this could have been due to the high tension lines nearby.

Bells Ring Again.

The evening of March 27th was dull with drizzle and mist around the hills. The Weather Bureau said the cloud was down to the 1000mt level. This didn't deter Maydena's lights from yet another fly over.

Marc Atkinson(12) and a friend were first to see the lights appear from over the eastern hills. The two lights were a few minutes apart. They rang the church bell to call out other residents to see the lights.

The lights kept on a steady course to the west until they eventually faded out in the south west at 10pm, being in view for 10 minutes. The lights were very bright and starlike in appearance.

Constable Lowry said the lights were travelling quite slowly under the 100% overcast sky. Judging by light aircraft that fly over he felt the lights were considerably smaller than the plane. It seems they were no more than 700mts above the town.

Sightings End.

The last report from the town was on April 14th at 9pm. This time a lone witness saw two orange red lights for 4 minutes above broken cloud. They were travelling away to the north east.

A fascinating problem with the lights was just where did they come from as they appeared from the east to pass over Maydena. The Centre received no other reports from the Derwent Valley which lies on the flight path of the lights?

It seems as if the lights just materialised down valley from the town and proceeded on their way. However, at least on one occasion of their north eastward flight they were seen departing over the Derwent Valley. The whole event was all very puzzling.

STRANGE EVENTS ON HIGHLAND FARM.

Early 1975 saw a series of sightings from the Tasmanian Lake Country mainly in Interlaken area. Fishermen sighted a huge UFO and beam over Lake Sorell on Feb 26th. Then in early March lights were seen moving over the lake. Later in the month an object was seen rising from behind trees near the lake. (See 1976 Report).

Other reports were received of an UFO near Lake Crescent that made a noise, and later in the year a bright light that rose up from the edge of Brady's Lagoon.

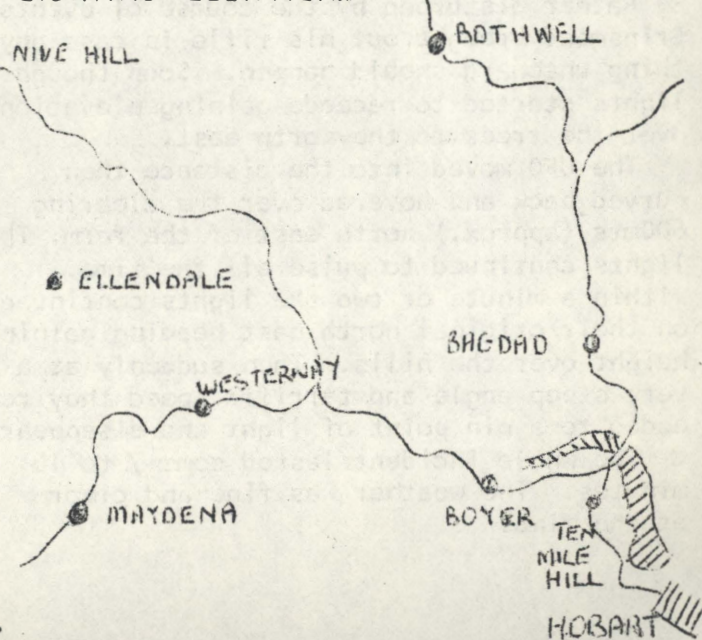
The Centre also investigated sightings from the adjacent Midlands which is overlooked by the eastern edge of the Lake Country, also further south in the Bothwell district.

Shooters out in late February 1975 north west of Lake Sorell found a puzzling flattened area. A 50mt by 4mt wide strip of flattened gum saplings. The saplings had been uprooted and fallen with their tops pointing north. The topside of the fallen trees appeared to be grazed as if something had made a low pass knocking them over. The location was too rough for vehicle access,

Events of the Farm.

The highland property is south of Lake Sorell and near Table Mtn. (1095mts.) The mountain is flat atop with an escarpment on all but the northern side. The summit plateau is roughly 2kms long running north to south. The terrain around the farm is hilly with stands of timber interspersed  
(next page)

SIGHTING LOCATIONS





## STANGE EVENTS ON A HIGHLAND FARM (contd).

## Events on the Farm (Contd)

with clearings and marshy flats. The nearby road carries only light traffic.

The first event seems to have been one Friday evening in March (75) at 8.15pm. Mr. M. Brinsmead was working alone at the farm building a house and workshop for the owner. Whilst at the farm he was living in his caravan, and had his truck in the near completed workshop attached to the house.

He recalled the power had been connected on the day of the sighting and the lights in the workshop were on that night for the first time. There was no door on the workshop and planks were nailed across the entrance.

Soon after dusk he was standing on the workshop bench finishing off some odd jobs. He noticed out the uncompleted windows a flashing light towards Table Mtn. He thought little of it at first, rationalising the moving light as a helicopter. Then he realised there was no sound and looking out could now see two flashing lights moving closer in front of Farm Hill (900mts).

Brinsmead went to the workshop doors for a better look at the slowly approaching lights, he thought "it" was going to land in the paddocks by the farm. However, the lights stopped about 300mts away in front of Farm Hill and about 15 to 20mts above the ground.

He described the lights as being 5 to 7 mts. apart. The left light was flashing green twice as fast as the right hand light which was red. Beneath there was a yellow glow that dimly lit the ground.

Rather disturbed by the course of events Brinsmead brought out his rifle in case anything untoward should happen. Soon though the lights started to recede gaining elevation over the trees to the north east.

The UFO moved into the distance then curved back and hovered over the clearing 600mts (approx.) north east of the farm. The lights continued to pulse all the time. Within a minute or two the lights continued on their original north east heading gaining height over the hills. Then suddenly at a very steep angle and terrific speed they receded to a pin point of light and disappeared.

The whole incident lasted some 7 to 10 minutes. The weather was fine and clear at the time.

## Other Reports.

On a field trip to the farm it was learnt that other puzzling events had occurred. Some of the witnesses were shooters who had been visiting the area for up to 20 years.

One night in early March (75) a bright blue light was seen a couple of hundred meters away from the farm towards Farm Hill. Then in late March or early April three employees on the farm had watched a set of lights over trees north of the farm. The three lights had changed positions for some time before they just went out.

Another hunter alone on the farm late in April had heard a rushing wind sound, but he says it was dead calm as the noise went on for 5 minutes then ceased.

## Lights on Table Mountain.

Within a few days of his seeing the lights near the farm Brinsmead saw a large star sized light come down on Table Mtn. He could not recall the sighting dates at the time of the Centre's investigations. However he was sure the incidents took place between March and the end of August 1975. Sometimes the lights were seen a few nights in a row, then nothing would be seen for over a week. The winter weather reduced visibility and on other times Brinsmead was away from the farm.

He never saw more than a light at a time. In the distance they were just a steady light, but when close by they appeared as a flashing light, usually red/orange.

One night he saw a light rise, from the southern end of Table Mtn and then land on the northern end.

Another night he found it hard to sleep and saw a puzzling display. First a flash of white light at the north of the mountain, then he saw a pulsing red/orange light overhead, it moved off and came down on the north of the mountain.

Half an hour later there was another flash and he saw a light come in from the north east landing in the centre of the plateau. Soon a white beam of light shone up from the southern end of the mountain. Atop the beam was a white something before it went out. The beam was only seen on one other occasion. A final flash of light saw the last light level out to land on the south of the mountain.

Although the lights came in at various angles they always levelled out as if to land.



# STRANGE EVENTS ON HIGHLAND FARM Contd:

## Search for Marks.

The lights were seen on numerous occasions and a system of blowing car horns was arranged on the farm to alert others to their arrival.

No reaction was noticed from the farm dogs as they barked so often.

Brinsmead said his TV played up a few times and soon after the lights were sighted. One night he woke up in the early hours and found someone had opened his van doors. Then another night a strange glow was seen by the new pole for the power lines, the manager thought it was Brinsmead at work late at night. However, Brinsmead was away from the farm at the time.

Near September Brinsmead and an interested relative climbed Table Mtn to see what they could find. They had little chance of covering the whole area. The plateau has snow gums, tea trees, alpine moss and pools.

Roughly near the central landing area they found small indentations in the moss. It looked like a round sample had been taken out but not replaced. There were over a dozen of these marks at random in the clearings amongst the tea tree.

The marks from memory were 2cms deep and 3cms wide. Some moss in the area had been dug up and was all dried and brown. There is no vehicle access to the plateau.

## Strange Figure Seen.

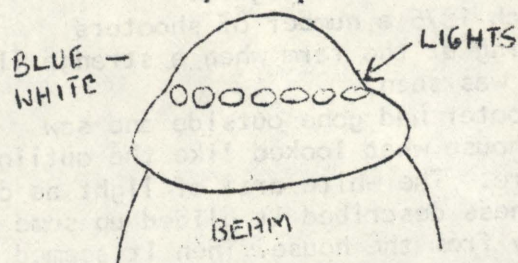
There is no connection with the sightings but two strange figures were seen at the farm. The first event was in 1973 the second in the midst of the March flap of 1975. The property owner was not aware of any similar events prior to 1973.

The wife of one of the shooters visiting the farm saw the first figure during Easter 1973. They were staying in a caravan a few hundred metres from the farm. Her husband returned in the early hours one morning and woke her up, she found she could not get back to sleep.

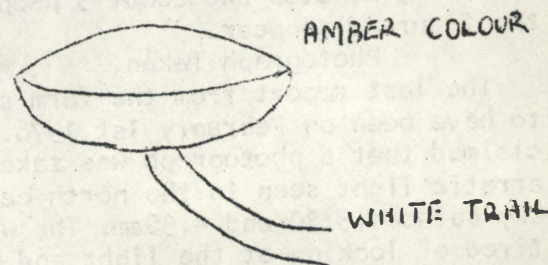
It was then she saw the figure of a woman enter the caravan head first through the roof hatch. Only the upper portion of the figure was visible. She seemed to have a scarf over her face which seemed to have a lot of colour. She tried to wake her husband but he was too tired. The figure was in the caravan for 3 minutes and floated back and forth before slowly going up to the hatch and disappearing. Her husband recalled someone trying to wake him up. The other laughed it off but were to change their minds 2 years later.

(To Page 9.)

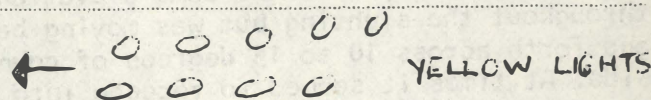
## WITNESS SKETCHES



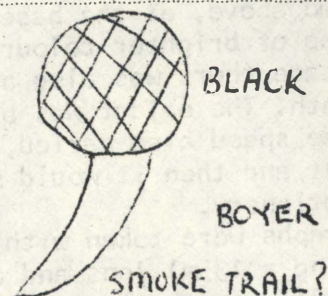
HIGHLAND FARM 1-2-76



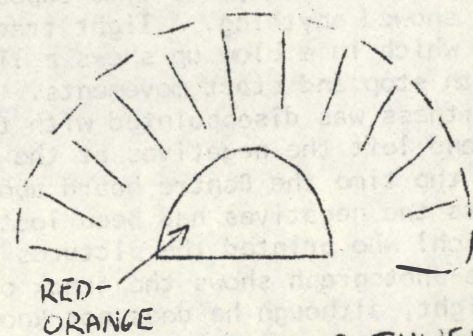
AUSTINS FERRY 22-8-76



BAGDAD 29-7-76



BOYER 2-8-76



BOTHWELL 22-9-76



## STRANGE EVENTS ON HIGHLAND FARM Contd:

### A Second Figure?

In March 1975 a number of shooters were staying at the farm when a strange light or figure was seen.

One shooter had gone outside and saw near the house what looked like the outline of a figure. The white area of light as one other witness described it glided up some steps away from the house. Then it seemed pulse or brighten and dim until it faded away to nothing. The whole incident was over in 3 minutes and about 5 people saw the figure disappear.

### Photograph Taken.

The last report from the farm scene seems to have been on February 1st, 1976. It was claimed that a photograph was taken of an erratic light seen in the north eastern sky between 3.30 and 4.30am. The witnesses tired of looking at the light and when they woke up at dawn it was no longer visible.

The light stayed at the same elevation throughout the sighting but was moving back and forth across 10 to 15 degrees of country side. At times it seemed to recede into the distance, then it would return. At its closest its apparent size was 50''' of arc.

When nearest it looked disc shaped with a dome above, at the base of the dome was an area of brighter coloured light. At this stage there was also a beam of light from beneath. The object was blue white in colour. The speed also varied, one moment it was fast and then it would move slowly or become stationary.

Photographs were taken with an Ashai Pentax using a 135mm lens and a Tri-X 400 ASA film. Only on the last two photographs did the witness use a 2 to 3 minute time exposure.

The undeveloped film was taken to the Hobart Mercury but only the time exposure pictures showed anything. A light track of 2 to 3mm which in a blow up shows a light trail with stop and start movements.

Our witness was disappointed with the results and left the negatives at the Mercury, by the time the Centre heard about the events the negatives had been lost.

Fred Kohl who printed the pictures feels the photograph shows the track of a moving light, although he does not know what the light source was. Martin George of the Tas Astronomical Society felt that the light track was not that of an astronomical body. The witness says the pictures were taken when the light seemed further away.

## THE BOTHWELL REPEATER.

Following the 1975 sightings in the Lake country the Centre has had three reports from Bothwell some 30kms south of Lake Sorell. Possibly the dying stages of the flap over Central Tasmania. All three sightings were within a mile of each other just east of the town.

The first case was about 7.30pm on May 18th when two youths were out shooting south of the Lyall Highway. Initially they saw a red light through the trees about 100 mts off. They thought it was a camp fire. As they neared the light it went off, then re-appeared close by, their dog became very timid and they crouched behind bushes.

The light was now white and looked mini tyre sized as it skimmed through the bush one metre off the ground and 25 mts away. The silent light then disappeared a second time only to reappear some 200 mts to the north east. It was now red again and was soon lost from view. It was all over in 2 or more mins:

The other puzzling thing was the light seemed to be contained and it did not cast any light on the surrounding trees.

### Beams of Light.

Two Bothwell witnesses saw strange beams of light at 7.30pm on July 22nd to the east of the town.

A white beam seemed to be shining between roadside pine trees 190mts from the witnesses. Several times the beam passed through the trees over a 4 minute period. Arriving home they then saw rotating beams 180mts away up in the sky. The beams seemed to be contained in a 30mt radius. They just vanished like a torch being turned off. There seemed to be nothing at the source of the beam.

### Roadside Object.

Mr Bowerman and his son were returning home on the evening of September 22nd at 7.45pm when they saw a glowing red object 2kms east of Bothwell.

The highway leaves the hills at this point and gives a view over the plains. To the north of the road about ½km distant and some 100 mts above the paddocks was the glowing object.

It appeared as a half circle with the level base beneath, the colour was red/orange. Above was a large glowing area. The weather was overcast and misty at the time, and the glow effect could have been reflection on the mist.

Mr Bowerman slowed down but after 2½ minutes the glow receded down to the UFO then the object faded or went behind the hills.



### Bagdad Affair.

After the excitement of the Maydena Mystery lights UFO activity fell to a low level with only the couple of reports from Bothwell. Then between the last days of July and mid August the Centre had seven sightings it could not explain.

Mrs J. Williams was driving north through Bagdad on July 29th about 9.30pm when she saw a row of lights over a roadside paddock. The lights gained elevation and speed as they moved away northwards, Mrs Williams had tried to pace the lights but after 3 minutes was left behind.

She said there were two rows of blinking lights (one above the other), with 4 or 5 lights in each row. They covered some 15 mts in length and were only 4mts off the ground. At the closest she was within 140 mts of the lights.

At first the lights seemed stationary to her right (east) and were so low they were visible through the roadside hedge. As Mrs Williams approached the lights climbed away over trees and houses parallel with the road. They disappeared momentarily behind a low brow at the northern end of Bagdad, and were last seen looking like a small mass of light to the north west (Left) going over a hilltop. A check for traces was made but nothing was found.

### Car Buzzed.

A second sighting occurred on the same stretch of road two nights later at 7.10pm. This time there were two witnesses returning south from the local store. They had only a few hundred metres to drive home.

Suddenly they saw a round fluorescent light heading straight at their car from the right front. The blinding light was moving fast and in a second or two filled up their field of vision, the witnesses braced themselves for a collision. Then the light shot up over the car roof and was gone, nothing could be seen behind and two upset witnesses hurried home.

KNOW OF A SIGHTING .....  
LET TUFOIC HAVE THE DETAILS .....

REPORT SIGHTINGS TO THE PRESIDENT ON  
72 74 79 or THE SECRETARY AFTER 6pm  
ON 23 6009.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT TUFOIC .....

INTERESTED IN THE UFO PHENOMENA? WHY NOT JOIN  
THE CENTRE or CALL AND SEE US AT OUR NEXT  
MEETING.

### Figure Seen

Micahel Wood was returning home at 4am on August 2nd after staying with friends for the evening. He was travelling north on the Midland Highway and just outside of Hobart and was at the foot of Ten Mile Hill. The weather was clearing after overnight rain and Wood was doing 70kph in his Landrover.

Suddenly there was a noise like electronic music but it was blurred as if turned up high, then at practically the same moment Wood's field of vision was blocked by a picture screen effect.

There seemed to be a yellow light source to the left with a figure in profile on the right. The figure was facing right and in the process of turning towards the witness. All this took place in just a few seconds.

Wood automatically braked but says he just seemed to go through the picture and it was no longer there. For a moment he thought he had knocked someone over.

The figure appeared to be 3mts tall and as wide as three people. It was wearing a black featureless jacket and light coloured trousers. The figure's hair was fair.

Wood felt surprised at the incident and when he told his parents the next day they suggested he ring the Centre. The Centre's number had appeared the previous day in a report on sightings at Bagdad.

### Sightings at Boyer

Later that afternoon at 4.45pm a strange aerial object was seen by two sets of independent witnesses at Boyer.

Initially Mr Rowbottom and a friend sighted the object from near the Australian Newsprint Mills, it was moving slowly south west beneath a cloudy sky. It was noticed when the witnesses glanced up at steam rising from the factory. They kept the object in view for 20 minutes as it moved in and out of the cloud base. It had an apparent size of two moons. Near dusk the object descended in front of distant hills and was lost from sight.

Coloured black the object changed its shape. First it was football like, then more like a cigar, finally round. When round it seemed to have a trail beneath like smoke.

Two other witnesses on the Lyall Highway also saw the UFO for 5 minutes before it disappeared.

They also saw it going in and out of the clouds. It looked well defined but changed shape, looking elongated then star like. (possibly the vapour trail beneath) It finally lost elevation and was lost to view against the dark hills beyond Boyer. (cont page 11)



## Boyer Car Pace

Boyer featured again on August 15th this time in the early hours of the morning. Three witnesses saw a light low to the north east when en route to Boyer from New Norfolk. The sighting was to last some 15 minutes.

At the time N.O'Brien was taking one of his friends home to Boyer. After seeing the light they drove a kilometre east of Boyer for a closer look. They parked the utility and could see the light in front of distant hills, it looked 1 cent sized. Then it grew bigger as if approaching, O'Brien turned the lights off and it receded or diminished in size. When it approached a second time the witnesses dashed to their friends house in Boyer. From here they could see the light through the trees, it seemed to have approached in a curving fashion.

After leaving their friend the light was no longer visible, but after a kilometer or two something shone a light in the back window of the utility. O'Brien's passenger saw a beam coming from the top of the UFO which was estimated to be 125mts away at a 250mt elevation.

It now had a resolved shape something like a jelly bean with a lump of dome atop. At the base of the lump was a strip of red light, otherwise the UFO was an orange to yellow colour.

O'Brien speeded up to 120kph, meanwhile the radio faded out as if the volume was being turned down. Inside the utility was lit up as if the interior light was on.

The road ahead swung under rocky cliffs known as "The Rocks", it was here the UFO was last seen as it seemed to go over the top of the steep hillside.

## Low Level Lights.

Yet again the Centre had a second unidentified report on the same day, this time at 8.15pm, from Mornington. Two lights were seen to move over the Meehan Range, then land or hover in front of the hillside.

Initially two bright orange/yellow lights were seen coming from the north, one passed behind the range 2kms distant from the witnesses, whilst the second light moved in front of the hills and stopped at the 200mt level.

The first light now re-appeared over the top of the hill (280mt) and dropped down to take up a position alongside the hovering light.

Then witnesses saw them both pulse together off and on for 10 seconds, then they just faded away.

Mr. C. Lockett had a puzzling experience early on November 11th when returning from Launceston to Hobart on the Midland Highway. The sighting commenced just after midnight as the witness was 5 kmts north of Campbelltown in the Tasmanian Midlands.

Lockett was following a car at the time and checked his rear vision mirror for any traffic behind. He was surprised to find a light behind the passengers side of the car. It was very close maybe 2 mts away and 2 mts off the ground. The elongated light was estimated as 30cm high and 15 cms wide. The light just maintained its position behind the car. Lockett was puzzled by the fact, that it did not reflect any light into his car or onto the mirrors, it seemed to be a contained light.

As he neared Campbelltown something seemed to pass over the light blocking it off, then it reappeared moving off at right angles over the roadside paddocks, then it was gone. The car ahead pulled in at Campbelltown whilst the witness headed south trying to rationalize his experience and keeping a look out in case the light re-appeared again.

Twenty six kilometres further south at Tunbridge Lockett picked up the light well behind his car. It moved up very fast on the drivers side and he was able to view it in the outside mirror. (Cont next page)

## A MID YEAR MINI-FLAP (from last col)

One witness had a view of the lights through a pair of 7x34 binoculars, he had the impression of a disc shaped object with a big light atop and a smaller one beneath. The weather at the time was cloudy. A visit to the area was made by TUF01C members but no traces were found.

## Last Report.

The last of the mid-year reports came on August 22nd just before midnight when an Austins Ferry witness watched an amber object travelling to the west for 5 minutes. (This report was in the same area as the Aug 2nd case).

Like the earlier Boyer report the object was also changing shape. Seen first to the south west at 60mt elevation the UFO was pear shaped. Then it changed shape at the top and took on more or a saucer appearance. Finally it looked like a disc with a long white trail below that seemed to be a vapour.

All the time it was moving back and forth before fading away to the west. The trail persisted long enough for others to see it briefly.



## Midland Car-Pacing Contd:

If Lockett hadn't looked in his mirrors he would never have known there was a light behind the car. This time the light was the same height but wider, and was only a metre above the centre of the road.

The witness felt a pins and needles effect come over his body, although outwardly he felt quite calm. The effect wore off by the time he reached Oatlands.

A car now approached from the opposite direction and at once the light just turned itself off. Lockett was sure he would see something once the other car went past, but the road behind him was deserted.

The light was seen for the last time just south of Oatlands (23kms from Tunbridge). First he saw a faint ball of light but it soon increased in size and brilliance to a round yellow ball. It was crossing the paddocks to the witnesses left. Then as he swung up Lemon Springs Hill he was able to view the light out of the passengers' window. Lockett decided to stop and ascertain finally what the light was, but in pulling up he took his eyes off the light and when he looked back it was nowhere to be seen.

Lockett says he travelled most of the time up to 120kph during the sighting and the light was last seen about 12.20am.

The pins and needles effect was felt briefly just after Oatlands. It may not be connected but on getting up that morning his left leg had no feeling, and could not respond for 2 minutes.

Contacts with local Police failed to bring forth any other sightings in the area.

SECOND NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE

The 2nd National UFO Conference - UFOCON 2 was held at Mt. Gambier, S.A., from Oct. 24 to 26. Organised jointly by the Centre for UFO Studies - Australian Co-ordination Section (ACOS) and UFO Research S. Aust. The Conference was chaired by H. Griesberg of ACOS. Among the primary objectives of the meeting were to present papers on various aspects of the phenomenon and to discuss methods of upgrading UFO research and investigation in this country. The conference was attended by 14 delegates from groups in 5 states, plus 3 scientific consultants to ACOS. Paul Jackson represented TUFOIC. Details were given of the new Australian computer data bank of information on sightings, based on American, David Saunders "UFOCAT" - which currently holds around 80,000 world wide reports. The unit is currently being programmed, it will go into operation on Jan. 1st 1977. All Australian groups are invited to submit sightings for inclusion. The data, as well as being exchanged with the American counterpart, will be available to serious researchers in this country. The conference was also told, that new sighting report forms have been designed and are now being used by all participating organisations, this will further help to standardise data relating to the UFO phenomenon. UFOCON 2 proved to be very successful as it further enhanced the co-operation that presently exists between all responsible UFO research organisations in Australia.

SPACEMEN GRABBED US - 3 WOMEN (Sunday Observer 31.10.76)

Three American women claimed this week they had been kidnapped by a flying saucer and subjected to violent physical tests. Police doctors, psychiatrists and UFO experts all say the three are telling the truth. The women - all housewives respected in their small Kentucky hometown - say they were scooped up while driving along a country road. They can remember nothing of what happened from then on unless they are kept under deep hypnosis.

In a trance each woman told of being removed from the car and held prisoner in a strange chamber. Each was also forced to undergo a frightening and painful examination before finding herself back in the car.

They were returning from a late supper in Stanford, 29 miles from home. Suddenly a mile west of the city, a large disc shaped object hurtled into view. "It was as big as a football field" recalled Louise, who was driving. It was metallic grey with a glowing white dome, a row of red lights around the middle and three or four red and yellow lights underneath.

The UFO stopped ahead of them - then circled around behind their car. Then some awesome force began dragging the car backward - at that point came the 80 minute gap in the trio's memory. Their next conscious memory was of seeing street lights as they entered Hustonville, 8 miles from where they had seen the UFO.

Louise's neck hurt, so she asked Mona to have a look. Mona found a strange red mark, like a fresh burn that hadn't blistered. All the women had the same marks. Dr Leo Sprinkke a veteran hypnotist conducted the hypnosis sessions.



## LATE REPORTS

Late December saw a number of sightings come to the Centre's attention. Some had occurred nearly a year earlier. At the time of writing most are still under investigation.

About 11pm on the evening of Feb 11th Mr N. Dilger of Swansea was disturbed by a persistent jet like sound that went on for some minutes. Eventually he looked outside and saw that all the paddock north of his house was lit up. The fencing and posts were all clearly visible, the source of the illumination being hidden by a shed and a dip in the ground.

Mr Dilger says that one of his neighbours also saw the glow and heard the noise. It just went out like a light being turned off, then the noise seemed to recede away to the north. There were no marks found in the paddock. The lit up area covered some 400mts. Strangely enough the Centre had 3 other reports of strange noises that month. As recounted earlier one noise only report was from Magra on Feb 10th in the same location a UFO was seen two nights later.

Other reports from the Swansea area have come to our attention, some involving motorists paced by lights. There seems to have been low key activity on the states east coast early in 1976.

## South Arm Sighting.

Another sighting investigated at years end came from South Arm, the witness being Mr B Barwick.

Mr Barwick arrived home at 1.45am and soon after noticed a bright light reflecting through the hall window. He went for a closer look from the front door. He was surprised to see a flattened football (Aussie Rules) shaped object above trees 100mts away across the road.

The object looked to have ridges on it and was a variety of colours, white, red, green, and orange. The object was clearly outlined and had a tail projecting up from right top side. He estimated its size as about 5 x 3 mts, the tail was about 5 mts long.

Mr Barwick watched the object from inside the house. First it moved away to the east, then returned to its first position then again went to the east until just a dot of light. The incident lasted 20 mins.

## YEARS SIGHTINGS STATISTICS.

As at December 31st the Centre had investigated .175.reports during the year, plus well over 30 cases from earlier years.

Astronomical misidentifications created most reports with Venus being prominent in October and November. It is disappointing to find so many people with little grasp of the night sky, being tricked by scintillating stars and objects near the horizon.

Some of the more unusual explanations involved beacon and car lights atop a mountain, distant thunderstorms, and a flock of birds.

The UFO percentage has fallen this year despite the Centre receiving large numbers of sightings to investigate.

Nearly 50% of the years unidentifieds occurred in the months of February and March, (it was March and Aug in 75) with the pattern of little activity late in the year being repeated again.

Fourteen of the ..unidentifieds originated from the Maydena, Derwent Valley areas. When and where will the next flap area occur?

## INVESTIGATIONS ...COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Year	Reports	Unidentified	UFO%
1971	91	19	21
1972	64	13	20
1973	132	23	17
1974	155	50	32
1975	163	38	23
1976	175	29	17

## ANALYSIS OF 1976 INVESTIGATIONS

Unidentified .....	29
Insufficient Info. & Investigating	19
Astronomical .....	61
Aircraft .....	24
Satellites .....	18
Car/Beacon Lights .....	5
Noise only .....	5
Other Explanations .....	14

TOTAL...175..

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